(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Air taxi operators

2001. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have a plan for relax rules for the air taxi operators in order to attract N.R.Is in the venture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating a new policy for the air services to encourage efficiency and economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The air taxi scheme is already designed to attract NRI investment.

(c) and (d). Under the New Industrial policy, air transport has been deleted from the list of industries reserved for public sector.

Elephant Sanctuaries

2002. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of elephant sanctuaries at present and the location thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some new elephant sanctuaries; and

(c) if so, the name of the States where these are proposed to be set up and the area likely to be covered under these new sanctuaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There are no sanctuaries created especially for elephants. However, a Statement showing the sanctuaries having elephant population and their locations is given in statement. I

(b) and (c). The wildlife Institute of India in their report entitled 'PLANNING A WILDLIFE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK' in areas having elephant population. The names and the areas of the recommended sanctuaries are given in Statement II

As the power to set up sanctuaries vests with State Governments, they have been requested to consider implementation of the report.

STATEMENT -I

Name of the Wild Life sanctuaries which have Elephant Populations

S.No.	*Name of the Wildlife Sanctuaries*	*District*	*State*
1.	Sri Venkateswara	Chittoor, Guddapa	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Mehao	Dibang Valley	Arunachal Pradesh

S.No.	*Name of the Wildlife Sanctuaries*	*District*	*State*
3.	Pakhui	East Kameng	Arunachal Pradesh
4.	D 'Ering	Siang	Arunachal Pradesh
5.	Barnadi	Kamrup	Assam
6.	Garampani	Sibsagar	Assam
7.	Orang	Darrang	Assam
8.	Dalma	Ranchi	Bihar
9.	Bhadra	Shimoga	Karnataka
10.	Bilgiri Ranga Swamy	Mysore	Karnataka
11.	Brahmagiri	Madikeri	Karnataka
12.	Cauvery	Mysore	Karnataka
13.	Dandeli	Urrara Kanada	Karnataka
14.	Shettihally	Shimoga	Karnataka
15.	Chimmony	Quilon	Kerala
16.	Chinnar	Idukki	Kerala
17.	Idukki	Idukki	Kerala
18.	Neyyar	Trivandrum	Kerala
19.	Parambikulam	Palghat	Kerala
20.	Peechi Vazhani	Trichur	Kerala
21.	Poppara	Kottayam	Kerala
22.	Periyar	Kottayam	Kerala
23.	Shenduruny	Quilon	Kerala
24.	Thattekadu	Iduki	Kerala
25.	Wayanad	Calicut & Wayanad	Kerala

S.No.	*Name of the Wildlife Sanctuaries*	*District*	*State*
26.	Nongkhyallem	East Khasi Hills	Meghalaya
27.	Sijju	West Garo Hills	Meghalaya
28.	Dampa	Aizawal	Mizoram
29.	Intanki	Kohima	Mizoram
30.	Chandka-Dampara	Puri	Orissa
31.	Hadgarh	Keonjar Mayurbhanj	Orissa
32.	Khalasuni	Sambalpur	Orissa
33.	Kotgarh	Phulbani	Orissa
34.	Kuldhia	Balasore, Mayurbhanj	Orissa
35.	Mahanadi Baisipalli	Puri	Orissa
36.	Satkosia Gorge	Dhenkanal Puri	Orissa
37.	Similipal	Mayurbhanj	Orissa
38.	Ushakothi	Sambalpur	Orissa
39.	Sanmalai (Indira Gandhi)	Coimbatore	Tamilnadu
40.	Mudumalai	Nilgiris	Tamilnadu
41.	Nilgiri Tahr	Nilgiris	Tamilnadu
42.	Sonnadi	Pauri-garhwal	Uttar Pradesh
43.	Chapramari	Jalpaiguri	West Bengal
44.	Gorumara	Jalpaiguri	West Bengal
45.	Jaliaparm	Jalpaiguri	West Bengal
46.	Mahananda	Darjeeling	West Bengal

STATEMENT-II

Names of Areas havingt Elephant Population and Recommended for Setting up of wild-life Sanctuaries

S.No.	*Name of the Area having elephant population*	*State*	*Area under the proposed sanctuary (in Sq. Kms.)*
1.	Kurathimalai	Kerala	100.00
2.	Ponmundy	Kerala	100.00
3.	Gunjawati	Karnataka	350.00
4.	Karimpuzha	Kerala	225.00
5.	Anamudi Park	Kerala	207.00
6.	Boluvampatti	Tamilnadu	107.00
7.	Megamalai	Tamilnadu	400.00
8.	Kaveri	Tamilnadu	600.00
9.	Barbetta	Tamilnadu	200.00
10.	Sujjalkuttai	Tamilnadu	36.00
11.	Chandrapur	Orissa	471.00
12.	Srirampur	Orissa	109.00
13.	Mahendragiri	Orissa	50.00
14.	Ajodhya	West Bengal	100.00
15.	Malayagiri	Orissa	800.00
16.	Saranda	Bihar	315.00
17.	Dalka	West Bengal	7.00
18.	Turu Arabella	Meghalaya	30.00
19.	Nongkhlaw	Meghalaya	150.00
20.	Rangarengri	Meghalaya	200.00
21.	Saipnglink	Meghalaya	300.00

S.No.	*Name of the Area having elephant population*	*State*	*Area under the proposed sanctuary (in Sq. Kms.)*
22.	Barail	Assam	300.00
23.	Barak	Assam	190.00
24.	Interline Forest	Assam	100.00
25.	Dhansiri Kaki	Assam	100.00
26.	Central Catchment	Tripura	50.00
27.	Kisa	Nagaland	30.00
28.	Dzuki - Phuliebazie	Nagaland	70.00
29.	Dzuko	Manipur	100.00
30.	Taret-Lokehao	Manipur	100.00
31.	Palak	Mizoram	200.00
32.	Ngengpu	Mizoram	100.00

Upgradation of Metre-Gauge System

2003. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a plan recently for the upgradation of some metre-gauge routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the routes identified therefor; and

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Wildlife species in Himalayas

2004. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:-

(a) the names of wildlife species living in Himalayas; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to preserve these species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Due to the large altitudinal and longitudinal variations, the number of wildlife species living in the